

of human beings on any particular occasion. Early in the morning every possible point of vantage was taken possession of by eager spectators. From noon a steady stream of men, women, and children from the four points of the compass converged at Hyde Park.

The ordinary Masses were celebrated on Sunday in the Cathedral. The worshippers were allowed to pass before the catafalque and take a last look at their lost Cardinal. The Cathedral doors were closed after the last Mass. At noon his Grace the Archbishop, accompanied by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, their Lordships Bishops Gallagher and O'Connor, Monsignor O'Haran, and Rev. Fathers Nulty and Darby entered the Cathedral. The coffin was screwed down. The mitre and crozier of the dead prelate were placed on the coffin, and Brothers Molloy and McNamara, of the H.A.B.C. Society, entered on the last watch.

At 3 o'clock the head of the procession marched off, headed by six mounted and four foot police. At College street it halted. In the meantime the members of the religious Orders had taken their places in the Cathedral. Representative public men followed. Twelve specially-selected pall-bearers marched on to the sanctuary. The candles surrounding the catafalque were lighted. The blaze of light threw a glow over the gathering.

Presently the muffled tolls of the bells commenced. The strains of the Dead March from 'Saul' then came, ever so softly from the great organ, as the head of the religious procession made its appearance from the sacristy. Preceded by cross-bearer and acolytes were the students from St. Patrick's College, followed by black-sashed altar boys. In order came the brown-robed Franciscans, the sombre gown of the Passionist, the Jesuits, the Marounites, Marists, Vincentians, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, the Redemptorists, and the Fathers of the Divine Word. The secular priests were next. In all, fully 250 priests marched in the procession. The purple-robed Monsignori were followed by the Bishops of the Province and from Victoria, and lastly the Archbishops of Melbourne and Sydney. Twelve stalwart men raised the coffin and slowly and solemnly carried it to the waiting hearse. Sadly the muffled tolls from the Cathedral tower were repeated. The thousands who waited outside then knew that the remains of the Prince of the Church had begun their last earthly journey. In an hour the processionists, six abreast, moved out of the presbytery grounds in the following order:—Foresters, Hibernians, guilds, parish societies, pupils of schools, municipal representatives, consuls, naval and military representatives, State and Commonwealth parliamentarians, judges, Papal knights, clergy, and prelates.

The sublimity of the spectacle afforded during the procession was remarkable. It was an outpouring of public reverence, not only to the head of the Catholic Church, but to the personality of one of the grandest figures that has ever figured in Australian and Irish history. Through the dense mass of humanity the figures of the procession gradually moved onwards. Lost to sight from the Cathedral, as it passed by St. James', eyes instinctively turned towards Oxford street. At this point the crowd had blotted out every semblance of the road, and opinion was expressed that difficulty would be experienced when the head of the procession made its turn toward the Cathedral. Fears on that score were removed as the mounted police turned the corner of College street. The crowd rose to the occasion, and pressed back, flooding the footpaths and Hyde Park with humanity. Reaching the Cathedral the friendly society men fell back to the footpath, and thereby assisted the police in keeping the crowd back. Detachments from the warships marched ahead into the Cathedral and then formed into line. The Children of Mary turned to the right into the school grounds, and later the students, priests, and prelates marched to the vault now waiting to receive the body. The official representatives were taken to the reserved seats.

The Last Sad Rites.

Candles on the sanctuary had burned low in their sockets as the last of the procession entered the Cathedral. Above the heads of the people could be seen

the glistened crosses which preceded the coffin. Slowly the pall-bearers moved down the main aisle past the sanctuary, to the new altar dedicated to the Irish Saints, and erected by Mr. T. Dalton, as a memorial of his father. The solemn strains of Chopin's 'Marche Funebre,' played on the organ, filled the Cathedral. Slowly sinking in the west, the sun had lost its brightness. The closing of the evening cast a gloom within the Cathedral as the Archbishops, the Bishops, Monsignori, Diocesan Consultors, grouped round the vault. Therein could be seen the coffins of Archbishop Polding, Archdeacon McEncroe, Fathers Therry and Power. The remains of Archbishop Polding were originally interred in the Petersham cemetery, and those of the three priests in the old Devonshire street cemetery. They were removed and placed in the vault of St. Mary's Cathedral in the presence of an enormous gathering. A memorial to the pioneer Archbishop and the priests was erected at the corner of College street and St. Mary's road. It bears the following inscription: 'The venerable remains of Archbishop Polding, together with those of the three priests here commemorated, were translated to St. Mary's Cathedral vault, March 17, 1901. Very Rev. Daniel Power, Catholic chaplain, died March 14, 1830. Venerable John McEncroe, Archdeacon, died August 22, 1866, aged 73 years; Venerable John Therry, Archpriest, died May 25, 1863, aged 74. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'

Suddenly lights penetrated the gloom as ready hands touched the electric button. The pall-bearers gently handled the coffin. Sobs were heard as they rested it on the casket containing the remains of the Venerable Archdeacon McEncroe, under which was the remains of the gentle and loving Archbishop Polding. The priests chanted the 'Benedictus' and the 'Pater Noster,' and his Grace the Archbishop concluded the ceremonies with a prayer.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 2.

Tenders are called for the erection of a Marist Brothers' School on a site in Hawkestone street, Thorndon. It is hoped to have the building completed by the end of the Christmas vacation.

The Marist Brothers' School boys football teams were again successful last Saturday, winning two games, one (A) against Te Aro by 3 goals to nil, the other (B) against Roseneath by default.

There was a large attendance at the meeting of the Women's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, on Friday evening. The Rev. Father Venning addressed the members.

The Confraternity of the Holy Rosary at St. Anne's, Wellington South, which was only recently started, has grown rapidly, and has now over 700 members.

A very successful social in aid of the funds of St. Patrick's choir, Masterton, was held in the Drillshed, Masterton, on last Thursday evening, about 160 people being present.

Cable advice has been received that Mr. P. J. Monaghan, son of Mr. W. J. Monaghan, Karori, who has been studying medicine for the past eight years at Guy's Hospital, London, has now passed his final examination and is expected back in Wellington shortly.

Mr. E. C. Prendeville, a well-known member of the Ponake Football Club, who will shortly be leaving for Eketahuna, was entertained by the club last Saturday evening and presented with a souvenir by the members as a token of the esteem in which he is held.

The deepest sympathy is felt for Bro. M. J. Hodgins, P.P., of the Lower Hutt branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, on the death of his mother, Mrs. Margaret Hodgins, of Pahiatua. The interment took place this